

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A composition comprising a combination of ~~two or more GBS antigens~~ a first isolated Group B streptococcus (GBS) antigen and a second isolated GBS antigen, wherein ~~said combination includes:~~

the first isolated GBS antigen is a GBS 80 antigen as represented by SEQ ID NO:3 or a fragment thereof of the GBS 80 antigen, wherein the GBS 80 antigen comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 and wherein the fragment of the GBS antigen comprises an immunogenic epitope; and

the second isolated GBS antigen is a GBS 322 antigen or a fragment of the GBS 322 antigen, wherein the GBS 322 antigen comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:38 and wherein the fragment of the GBS 322 antigen comprises an immunogenic epitope,

wherein, in an Active Maternal Immunization Assay, GBS-challenged pups from female mice immunized with the combination have an improved survival rate compared with GBS-challenged pups from female mice immunized with a single antigen, wherein the single antigen is not GBS 80.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 [[2]], wherein the survival rate percent survival rate of GBS-challenged challenged pups from the female mice immunized with the combination is at least 2 percentage points higher than the percent survival rate of GBS-challenged challenged pups from the female mice immunized with the [[a]] single non-GBS 80 antigen.

4. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein said combination consists of the first isolated GBS antigen and the second isolated GBS antigen ~~two GBS antigens~~.

5. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein said combination further comprises a third isolated GBS antigen ~~consists of three GBS antigens~~.

6. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 5 [[1]], wherein said combination further comprises a fourth isolated GBS antigen ~~consists of four GBS antigens~~.

7. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 6 [[1]], wherein said combination further comprises a fifth isolated GBS antigen ~~consists of five GBS antigens~~.

8. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the GBS 80 antigen comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or an immunogenic fragment thereof.

9. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the fragment of the GBS 80 antigen comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:7 ~~selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9~~.

10. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, further comprising one or more isolated ~~said combination consisting of two to thirteen~~ GBS antigens selected from the group consisting of GBS 80 as represented by SEQ ID NO:3, GBS 91 set forth as ~~as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:13, GBS 104 set forth as ~~as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:20, GBS 184 set forth as ~~as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:25, C5a peptidase, UDP-N-acetylmuramoylalanine-D-glutamate ligase (Mur D), surface immunogenic protein (sip), pyruvate kinase (pyk), Sat D, cyII, GBS 404 set forth as ~~as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:48, GBS 690 set forth as ~~as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:51, and GBS 691 set forth as ~~as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:54.

11. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 1, further comprising said combination including GBS 80 as represented by SEQ ID NO:3, GBS 104 set forth as as represented by SEQ ID NO:20, and GBS 322 as represented by SEQ ID NO:38.

12. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 1, further comprising said combination including GBS 80 as represented by SEQ ID NO:3, GBS 104 set forth as as represented by SEQ ID NO:20[[.]] and C5a peptidase, and GBS 322 as represented by SEQ ID NO:38.

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) ~~★~~ An isolated fusion protein comprising:

a fragment portion of a GBS 80 antigen, wherein the GBS 80 antigen comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9; as represented by SEQ ID NO:3 and

a fragment portion of at least one different GBS antigen selected from the group consisting of GBS 91 set forth as SEQ ID NO:13, GBS 104 set forth as SEQ ID NO:20, GBS 184 set forth as SEQ ID NO:25, C5a peptidase, UDP-N-acetylmuramoylalanine-D-glutamate ligase (Mur D), pyruvate kinase (pyk), Sat D, cyII, GBS 404 set forth as SEQ ID NO:48, GBS 690 set forth as SEQ ID NO:51, and GBS 691 set forth as SEQ ID NO:54.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The isolated fusion protein of claim 14 [[15]] wherein said at least one different GBS antigen is GBS 322 set forth as as represented by SEQ ID NO:38.

17. (currently amended) The fusion protein of claim 16 consisting essentially of the fragment of the a GBS 80 antigen as represented by SEQ ID NO:3 and the fragment of the a GBS 322 antigen as represented by SEQ ID NO:38.

18. (withdrawn) A method for the therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of GBS infection in an animal susceptible to GBS infection comprising administering to said animal a therapeutic or prophylactic amount of the composition of claim 1.

19. (withdrawn—currently amended) A method for the manufacture of a medicament for raising an immune response against GBS comprising combining a first isolated GBS antigen and a second isolated GBS antigen, wherein:

the first isolated GBS antigen is a GBS 80 antigen as represented by SEQ ID NO:3 or fragment thereof, wherein the GBS 80 antigen comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9; and

the second isolated GBS antigen is a GBS 322 antigen or a fragment thereof, wherein the GBS 322 antigen comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:38 with at least one different GBS polypeptide antigen.

20. (withdrawn—currently amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising combining a third isolated GBS antigen, wherein the third isolated GBS said at least one GBS polypeptide antigen comprises a polypeptide or fragment thereof selected from the antigen group consisting of GBS 91 set forth as as represented by SEQ ID NO:13, GBS 104 set forth as as represented by SEQ ID NO:20, GBS 184 set forth as as represented by SEQ ID NO:25, C5a peptidase, UDP-N-acetylmuramoylalanine-D-glutamate ligase (Mur D), surface immunogenic protein (sip), pyruvate kinase (pyk), Sat D, cyII, GBS 404 set forth as as represented by SEQ ID

NO:48, GBS 690 ~~set forth as as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:51, and GBS 691 ~~set forth as as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:54.

21. (canceled)

22. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 10 wherein the C5a peptidase is GBS 276 ~~set forth as as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:28.

23. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 10 wherein the Mur D is GBS 305 ~~set forth as as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:33.

24. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 10 wherein the pyk GBS 330 ~~set forth as as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:40.

25. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 10 wherein the Sat D is GBS 338 ~~set forth as as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:43.

26. (withdrawn—currently amended) The composition of claim 10 wherein the cyII is GBS 361 ~~set forth as as represented by~~ SEQ ID NO:46.

27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) A composition comprising:

~~a first isolated GBS antigen a first polypeptide~~ comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:7; and

~~a second isolated GBS antigen a second polypeptide~~ comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:38 surface immunogenic protein (sip).

29. (currently amended) The composition of claim 28 wherein the first isolated GBS antigen polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:3.

30. (canceled)